Aquamaintain LTD

Case Study

Barnwell Country Park, Northamptonshire

Background

Barnwell Country Park is an important local green space facility owned by Northamptonshire County Council and managed by First for Wellbeing CIC.

Providing easy access to the countryside is an important aspect of the park.

The aim of the project was to provide improved countryside access around the whole Country Park and the adjacent River Nene.

The specifications for the path would allow access for everyone including people in wheel chairs, especially during wetter periods of the year when the original un-surfaced paths were muddy and inaccessible.

Scope of the Project

The path works involved constructing 600m of new path around the North Lake and adjacent to the river Nene.

A further 800m of existing path was widened and re-surfaced in order to make it DDA compliant.

Additional areas including seating areas, play areas and fishing swims were also re-surfaced to improve safety and breath a new lease of life around the parks features.

The project was planned and delivered to minimising disturbance whilst still providing safe access to this heavily used public space.

Improving access…

The completed works provide easy access to the park, countryside and open spaces. The new paths allow access for everyone, including people in wheelchairs, even in the wettest of weather.

Solution

The new paths were excavated to a width of 2m, some areas were edged with boards and sleepers and a limestone dust was added to create a durable surface.

The paths were made up of one layer of Type 1 granular sub base producing a heavy-duty path for use all year around.

Paths were excavated using a tracked excavator along the route to a width of 2m and at a depth of 150mm. in other areas the path was edged using softwood boards and sleepers.

Type 1 has a good distribution of stone particle sizes down to 'fines' that transfers the weight of path users across the ground, helping to make a durable path.

The larger stones in the aggregate interlock to give the sub base strength. The smaller stones and fines contained in the Type 1 act to infill any gaps between the larger stones and bind the material together into a strong solid mass on top of the ground.

The aggregate was imported along the course of the new paths and installed with a cross fall to provide drainage. The footpaths were then compacted using a twin drum vibrating roller.

The surface was then blinded with type 1 limestone dust to provide a durable surface for path users.

For More Information…

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